

Zachary C. Courser, Ph.D.

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Lexington, VA 24450

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EDUCATION

- University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA
Ph.D. in Government, May 2008.
Dissertation: "Voting Alone: Anti-Partyism, Political Independence and the Diminution of Political Participation"
Chair: James Ceaser.
Committee Members: Paul Freedman, Larry Sabato, and Michael Holt.
- University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA
M.A. in Government, January 2003.
Thesis: "Soft in the Center: Party Politics in the Age of the Independent Voter."
Advisors: James Ceaser and Sidney Milkis.
- Claremont McKenna College
Claremont, CA
B.A. in Government, 1999, Departmental Honors.
Thesis: "Der Geist Der Stets Verneint: A Study of Friedrich Nietzsche's *Genealogy of Morals*."
Advisors: Mark Blitz and Charles Kesler.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Politics
Williams School, Washington & Lee University
American National Government, Pol 100
Fall 2008.
- Visiting Instructor, Department of Government
Claremont McKenna College
Introduction to American Politics, Govt 20;
Fall & Spring 2006-8. The Electoral Process, Govt 104;
American Political Parties, Govt 123; Spring 2007.
Thesis advisor, Spring 2007, Spring 2008.
- Instructor, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Political Parties and Group Politics, AP 424A
Fall 2005.
- Instructor, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Campaigns and Elections, AP 436.
Summer 2005 & 2006.
- Instructor, CTY Program
Johns Hopkins University
Great Cases: American Legal History,
Summer 2004 & 2005.
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Introduction to American Politics, AP 101
Professor Larry Sabato, Spring 2002, 2003, 2004
Head Teaching Assistant, Spring 2004
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Constitutional Interpretation, AP 381
Professor David O'Brien, Fall 2003
- Instructor, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Political Parties and Group Politics, AP 321
Summer, 2003
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Politics
University of Virginia
Modern Political Theory, PT 302
Professor Colin Bird, Fall 2002

Teaching Assistant, Department of Politics
University of Virginia

Introduction to Political Theory, PT 101
Professor Lawry Balfour, Fall 2001.

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Salvatori Center
Claremont McKenna College
Claremont, CA

Salvatori Visiting Fellow, 2007-8.

University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA

Politics Department Fellowship, 2004 – 2006
Bradley Fellowship, 2003 – 2006
Dupont Fellowship, 2002 – 2004
Olin Fellowship, 2002 – 2003
Seven Society Graduate Fellowship for Superb Teaching;
Semi-Finalist, 2003.

CONFERENCE PAPERS & PRESENTATIONS

Bridging the Partisan Divide: Rediscovering Deliberation
2008 Arsalyn Annual Conference, Washington, DC

“Parties, What Are They Good For?”

Midwestern Political Science Association
2007 Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

“Mugwumps and Goo-Goos: American Democracy
and 19th Century Anti-Partisanship.”

Midwestern Political Science Association
Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

“Do Parties Make for a Better Democracy?: A 2005
Comparative Analysis of Party Organization in the
States.”

Western Political Science Association
2004 Annual Conference, Portland, OR

“Soft in the Center: Party Politics in the Era of the
Independent Voter.”

Midwestern Political Science Association
2004 Annual Conference, Chicago, IL

“Partisanship and Participation: A Theory of Political
Parties in a Democracy.”

PUBLICATIONS

“How Much Debt Can the U.S. Afford?” op-ed, *Roanoke Times*, Roanoke, VA, December 30, 2008.

“Political Parties”, “Ballot Initiatives, Term Limits”, “Independent Expenditure”, “Precinct Committee Person”, and
“Soft Money” in *The Encyclopedia of American Parties and Elections*, Larry Sabato and Howard Ernst, eds. (New
York: Facts on File, March 2006).

“A Boon to Consumers,” op-ed, *Riverside Press-Enterprise*, Riverside, CA, January 15, 2006.

“Wal-Mart and the Politics of American Retail,” Competitive Enterprise Institute Issue Analysis (Washington, DC:
CEI Press, November 2005).

RESEARCH, EDITING AND REVISION WORK

Revisions Editor, Longman Publishers, New York, NY. Composed edits and revisions to “Political Parties,” “Voting and Elections,” “The Campaign Process,” and “The Media,” in *American Government: Continuity and Change, 2008 Edition* (New York: Longman, 2007), Karen O’Conner and Larry Sabato.

Research assistant, *Backlash: The Killing of the New Deal*, Robert Shogan (Chicago, IL: Ivan R. Dee, 2006). Performed original research in the Albert and Shirley Small Special Collections Library at the University of Virginia on Homer S. Cummings’ political diaries.

Research assistant, *American Government: Balancing Democracy and Rights, 1st ed.* Marc Landy and Sidney Milkis (New York: McGraw Hill, 2003). Researched sources, provided editorial assistance, and co-wrote the glossary and annotated bibliography. August 2001 – August 2003.

Research assistant, *American Government: Origins, Institutions, & Public Policy, 7th ed.* James Ceaser (Dubuque, IA: Kendall/Hunt Publishing, 2002). Updated facts, figures, and revised the text for the “Congress” and “Political Parties” chapters. January – June 2002.

MEDIA APPEARANCES, TELEVISION

“Closing Bell,” CNBC, October 31, 2006. Subject: Commentary on Wal-Mart’s entry into politics, their present political battles, and predictions for the 2008 election season.

“Closing Bell,” CNBC. January 19, 2006. Subject: A debate with Ed Yingling, president and CEO of the American Bankers Association, over Wal-Mart’s entry into the banking industry.

“Evening News,” Regional News Network (RNN), New York, New Jersey and Connecticut cable news. December 8, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart’s impact on the American economy.

MEDIA APPEARANCES, RADIO

“Business Hour,” KNX 1070, Los Angeles, CA. January 13, 2006. Subject: A debate on the Maryland law forcing Wal-Mart to change its healthcare spending practices.

“Scott Sloan Show,” WLW 700 AM, Cincinnati, OH. December 15, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Investor Coaching with Paul Winkler,” WLAC 1510 AM, Nashville, TN. December 10, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Bill Cunningham Show,” WLW 700 AM, Cincinnati, OH. December 9, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Bruce Elliot Show,” WBAL 1090 AM, Baltimore, MD. December 8, 2005. Subject: Debate with anti-Wal-Mart activist on whether Wal-Mart is good for America.

“Thom Hartmann Show,” Air America and Sirius Satellite Networks. December 7, 2005. Subject: Debate on whether Wal-Mart is good for America.

“Viewpoint University,” KSOO 1140 AM, Sioux Falls, SD. December 5, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Chris Duel Show,” KTSA 550 AM, San Antonio, TX. December 1, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Brent Clanton Show,” KXYZ 1320 AM, Houston, TX. December 1, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the politics of American retail.

“Dale Julin Show,” KIRV 1150 AM, Fresno, CA. November 30, 2005. Subject: Wal-Mart and the future of American retail.

“Fred Hornsberger Show,” KDKA 1020 AM, Pittsburgh, PA. November 23, 2005. Subject: Is Wal-Mart good for America?

“Stock Doctor,” Nationally syndicated. November 23, 2005. Subject: Government regulation and Wal-Mart.

“The AM Magazine,” WGBF 1280 AM, Evansville, IN. November 21, 2005. Subject: Debate with WalmartWatch.com representative regarding is Wal-Mart good for America.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Claremont McKenna College
Claremont, CA

Selections Committee
CMC Washington, D.C. Semester Program
Fall 2006 – Spring 2008

Claremont McKenna College
Claremont, CA

Selections Committee
Kathryn W. Davis “100 Projects for Peace” Grant
2006 - 2008.

University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA

University Honor Committee, Member for the Graduate
School of Arts and Sciences. Elected for 2003 – 2004 term.

University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA

Chair and co-founder, Range Housing Council
Elected 2004 – 2005, 2005 – 2006 terms.